Research and Development (BPR&D), Ministry of Home Affairs to provide its AM/FM Radio Channels, as a medium of training of Police personnel posted in various Police Training Institutes all over the country.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that the scheme would be introduced on the availability of the content from BPR&D.

Setting up of LPT centres in Tamil Nadu

2210. SHRI RIKA. RA. SUBBIAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of number of LPT centres in Tamil Nadu ;

(b) whether there is a demand or thinking on the part of Government to set up more LPT centres in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Forty one LPT centres are presently functioning in Tamil Nadu.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Fourteen more LPT centres are presently under implementation in the State.

Performance of FM stations

2211. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of FM stations operating as on date;

(b) the details of their performance;

(c) the steps taken to ensure good quality of programmes put across by these stations; and

(d) whether Government have realised the financial target visualised in this venture?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) As on date, 130 FM transmitters are operational in the country, including 2 stations set up by private agencies.

(b) and (c) The performance of AIR FM stations has been excellent both in terms of content and quality. The programme pattern of the Prasar Bharati Stations is discussed at various levels and carefully crafted. It has been the

constant endeavour of All India Radio to put out the best of programmes by bringing innovative pattern of programmes and style of presentation, which is becoming popular among the listeners, and is generating commercial revenue. The content of private FM stations also have to conform to programme and Advertisement Codes applicable to AIR.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Advertisements of Ministries regarding their performance

2212. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the full page advertisements appearing in almost all the newspapers sponsored by almost all the Ministries with photographs of the Prime Minister and the Ministers of respective Ministries and their achievements;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred by each Ministry on such advertisements during the last two years; year-wise and Ministry-wise; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to stop the wasteful expenditure of the Ministries on this account?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c) : Publicity of schemes, activities and achievements is essential for the information dissemination by the Ministries/ Departments of the Government. Information regarding details of expenditure is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Efforts to make Doordarshan programmes entertaining

†2213. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that after setting up of Prasar Bharati, some specific efforts have been made to make the programmes of Doordarshan effective and full of entertainment; and

(b) if so, the details of these efforts and the achievements made by means of the same until now?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have intimated that the proposals so received are evaluated by an evaluation committee

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.